

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 071415 TOSEC 030159
ORIGIN SS-15

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

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FOR SECRETARY AND SCAHUFELE

FOL TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO DAR ES SALAAM GABORONE
LILONGWE LONDON LUSAKA PRETORIA USUN NEW YORK FROM CAPE TOW
DTD 31 MAR 1977 QTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAPE TOWN 0480

E.O. 11652: N/A - DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT

TAGS: PFOR, RH, ZA

SUBJ: RHODESIAN STATEMENT OF INTENT

REF: LUSAKA 0843 (NOTAL)

1. FOLLOWING IS OFFICIAL TEXT OF RHODESIAN REGIME'S
MARCH 29 "STATEMENT OF INTENT" REGARDING POLITICAL SETTLE-
MENT.

2. "THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT OF INTENT WAS ISSUED BY THE
GOVERNMENT TODAY IN ORDER TO CLARIFY ITS POSITION IN
REGARD TO THE SETTLEMENT ISSUE.

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PAGE 02 STATE 071415 TOSEC 030159

3. "SINCE THE PRETORIA AGREEMENT WAS ACCEPTED IN SEPTEMBER
1976, AN ERRONEOUS BELIEF HAS GROWN UP THAT THE GOVERNMENT
HAS ACCEPTED THAT THERE WILL BE MAJORITY RULE WITHIN
TWO YEARS. THIS BELIEF IS WRONG.

4. " THE POSITION IS THAT THE GOVERNMENT ACCEPTED
MAJORITY RULE WITHIN A PERIOD OF TWO YEARS BUT ONLY AS

PART OF A COMPREHENSIVE PACKAGE DEAL. THIS PERIOD WOULD ONLY START AFTER AN INHRIM GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN SET UP IN TERMS OF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN AGREEMENT.

5. "THERE IS NO COMMITMENT TO UNQUALIFIED MAJORITY RULE IN ISOLATION.

6. "RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, IN PARTICULAR THE CONCENTRATED RUSSIAN EXPANSION WHICH HAS BEEN MADE CLEAR BY THE PRESENCE OF THE CUBANS IN ANGOLA AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MARXIST-LENINIST STATE IN MOZAMBIQUE, HAVE MADE A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE INTERNAL RHODESIAN ISSUE ESSENTIAL. THE STATED AIMS OF THESE STATES, OF THEIR DIABOLICAL MISSION TO BRING COMMUNISM TO AFRICA AND ESPACIALLY TO SUBJUGATE THE WHOLE OF THE SUB-CONTINENT OF SOUTHERN AFRIA, MORE THAN EVER MAKE IMPERATIVE A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT WHICH WILL MAINTAIN THE STABILITY OF SOUND GOVERNMENT IN RHODESIA IN THE INTERESTS OF ALL RHODESIANS.

7. "THE GOVERNMENT'S OBJECTIVES ARE THEREFORE QUITE CLEAR: (1) TO NEGOTIATE A CONSTITUTION WHICH MUST EFFECTIVELY GUARANTEE THE RIGHTS OF MINORITY GROUPS IN SUCH A WAY THAT THEY CANNOT BE ABOLISHED OR RENDERED INEFFECTIVE, AS HAS BEEN THE CASE IN OTHER PARTS OF AFRICA AND ELSEWHERE. (2) TO GUARANTEE THE SAFETY OF ALL CITIZENS BY ENSURING THAT A POLICE FORCE ACTING DIRECTLY WITHIN THE TERMS OF THE LAW WILL BE MAINTAINED. (3) TO ENSURE THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE JUDICIARY. (4) THAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 STATE 071415 TOSEC 030159

THE SECURITY OF THE STATE WILL BE GUARANTEED BY ARMED FORCES WHO OWE ALLEGIANCE TO THE STATE ONLY AND NOT TO A POLITICAL PARTY OR INDIVIDUAL. (5) TO GUARANTEE THAT THE RIGHTS OF INDIVIDUALS WILL ALWAYS BE RESPECTED. (6) TO PRESERVE THE ADMINISTRATION IN THE FORM OF THE CIVIL SERVICE WHICH MUST CONTINUE IN OFFICE AND THAT THE TERMS UNDER WHICH ITS MEMBERS ARE EMPLOYED BE HONoured BY ANY FUTURE GOVERNMENT. (7) TO ENSURE ECONOMIC STABILITY AND PROGRESS BY MEANS OF PRIVATE ENTERPRISE AND THE RIGHT TO PRIVATE PROPERTY. (8) TO PROVIDE EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL. (9) TO AGREE ON A CONSTITUTION IN WHICH THE REPRESENTATION OF THE VIEWS OF ALL RHODESIANS WILL BE DEMOCRATICALLY FAIRLY EXPRESSED.

8. "WE ARE, MOREOVER, IRREVOCABLY DETERMINED THAT THE COUNTRY WILL NOT BE SURRENDERED TO THE FORCES OF CHAOS AND REVOLUTION.

9. "THE WAR WILL BE PURSUED WITH THE UTMOST VIGOUR

UNTIL WE HAVE DESTROYED THE TERRORISTS." BOWDLER
UNQTE CHRISTOPHER

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